



Life's a Hoot!



*The International Owl Collectors' Club,
54 Tiverton Road, Edgware, Middlesex, HA8 6BE, England.*

Hello again and welcome to issue five - by the time you get this we will be one year old as I started the club (with just five of us) in August 1992. We have had a lot of new members since last time and now have members in Spain, South Africa, Japan, Australia and we've had an enquiry from New Zealand, which takes our total of countries to eleven. I think we are justified in calling ourselves the International Owl Collectors' Club, don't you? At the time of printing we have 106 members.

Quite a few of you joined with issue two, which means that this may be your fourth newsletter and so your subscription renewal is due. If so, you will see a note to that effect stamped on your envelope. The amount stated may be more than you originally paid, but this is because "Life's a Hoot" now has 12 pages instead of 8 and so costs more to print and mail. Current prices are:- England and Europe £2.50, America \$6, Australia etc. £4 or \$7. Please re-subscribe if applicable, as I'd hate to lose you, and let me know what you'd like to see in the newsletter. Better still, send an article, letter or illustration yourself!

Please note that to keep costs down, everything possible is being set at Printed Paper or Small Packet postal rates, which means that I'm not allowed to add a letter or anything personal. Sorry.

As I'm sure you've noticed by now, unless this is your first issue, I've got a new publishing package on my computer (actually it's my husband's computer - let's hear it for Ken!). All the issues should be more or less like this from now on. I hope you like it.

We did get onto the radio eventually, but they called us the Owl Appreciation Society so we didn't get much of a response. I'm sure if they'd have given us our real name it would have been better. However, they did send us a cheque for £29 (about \$44) which I've put into the charities fund. I'm pleased, because I didn't expect to be paid at all.

I hope you like the postcard and bookmark enclosed. They were given to us by the Countryside Bookshop. This lovely shop has books on wildlife, plants, crafts and many other subjects, so do visit it if you are nearby.

Just for a moment today I thought it had finally happened - I unpacked some new owls and couldn't find anywhere to put them down! Oh No! Is this the end of my collecting? After a brief panic I rearranged some of my shelves so that there were more owls on the higher ones (which are hard to reach so I don't put things there as much) and managed to make space for the new ones and a few more. It'll happen one day, though, and I don't want to move to a bigger house!

Well, thanks to all the contributors to this issue and particularly to Jill Andrew in Australia, who although she isn't an owl collector wrote to Woman's Day magazine to publicise the IOCC thus prompting over 80 people to write to us.

Now read on.

Elise

Owls for Sale

Offers from

various

members

this time.

The first is

this owl,

which is

embroidered

on all four

sides of a

tissue box

cover made

of plastic

canvas. He

is stitched

in various

shades of

brown and tan wool, on a beige

background. The cover fits the boutique

size of tissue box - the ones that are

almost cubes. Beryl Scrutton will make

these for you at £5 (\$10) each, including a box of tissues as they are

almost impossible to post empty! Please

send orders direct to her at: 55

Sandringham Gardens, North

Finchley, N12 0NY, England. Please be

patient with her, as they do take quite

some time to stitch.

Rita Keller will paint an owl on any cotton clothing you send. This costs £75 (\$150) as it is a big job and the paints (and return postage) aren't cheap, but she does some very nice work (I've seen photos) and £15 (\$30) of that goes to our owl charities. Send the clothes to Rita (write first to discuss designs etc.) but

send the money to the club address (with a

note saying what it is) so that I can

take the owls' part and send the rest in DM.

Germans please write to Rita

and discuss payment, as

your postage will be less! Items

will be returned by surface mail, so

allow plenty of time.

Rita lives at:

Heimostr. 15, D 86744,

Hainsfarth,

West Germany.



One of the Australians described herself as an Owl-coholic, and I like the phrase so much that I've incorporated it into our first IOCC badge (which the Americans would call a button, I think), as shown below. I think the phrase is appropriate because, like most collecting, our hobby does seem addictive! the badge is shown actual size, and is green and brown lettering and a brown owl, all on a pale yellow background. The same design is also available on the back of a little mirror. They cost £1.50 (\$3) for the badge or £3 (\$6) for the mirror. I'm contributing the badge and mirror parts, so all this money is for the owls.

One last thing - The owl image on the badge is stamped with a photopolymer stamp I had made. It's just like a rubber stamp except it's a clear plastic material instead of rubber. They can be produced in sheets and you then have to mount them on thin sponge and wood. I'm going to have some more made, so if you have a drawing (black and white ONLY, no shades of grey) which is NOT copyright (you drew it, or the person who did has given you permission to use it, or it is more than 50 years since the artist died), send it with £1 (\$2) per square inch to the club address. Calculate how many square inches it is by drawing a box around it, measuring two sides of the box in inches and multiplying the numbers. For those of you who are metric, this is an inch tape measure!

When I have enough drawings I'll get the stamps made, mount them on sponge and send them to you. You will have to find a bit of wood or something flat and solid to stick them on. I will also have a second copy of each (which I will pay for) made for my collection so that I can use them in future issues of *Life's a Hoot*. All profits to the owls, of course.

The International
Owl Collectors' Club
I'm an Owl-coholic

Charity Corner

First, a little about the charities we currently support, particularly for our new Australian members who don't, apparently, have any owl-related charities.



come to the club so that they can sell them to raise money).

There is London Zoo, which is in dire financial straits, where I personally have adopted an owl to help with its food bill. Other members help out at other zoos.

This quarter we have adopted a pair of short eared owls at The Owl Centre in Muncaster Castle, Ravenglass, Cumbria, CA18 1RQ, U.K. I chose short-eared owls because we are already supporting one Tawny and one barn owl! The owl centre welcomes visitors and has dozens of owls of many species as it is also the home of BOBARS, the British Owl Breeding and Release Scheme. Last year they had what they refer to as a mediocre breeding season with eight species producing 41 young! As many of these weren't British species you will realise that they provide birds to be released in other countries too, so I think they are a particularly good charity for us, as an International club, to support. This part of their work is called the World Owl Project. The collection at Muncaster is "for the purposes of conservation, research and education of the visiting public". You can join BOBARS and get their newsletter for £7.50 per year in Britain - write for information if you are living elsewhere. Remember to enclose an International reply coupon as they need all their money for the owls.

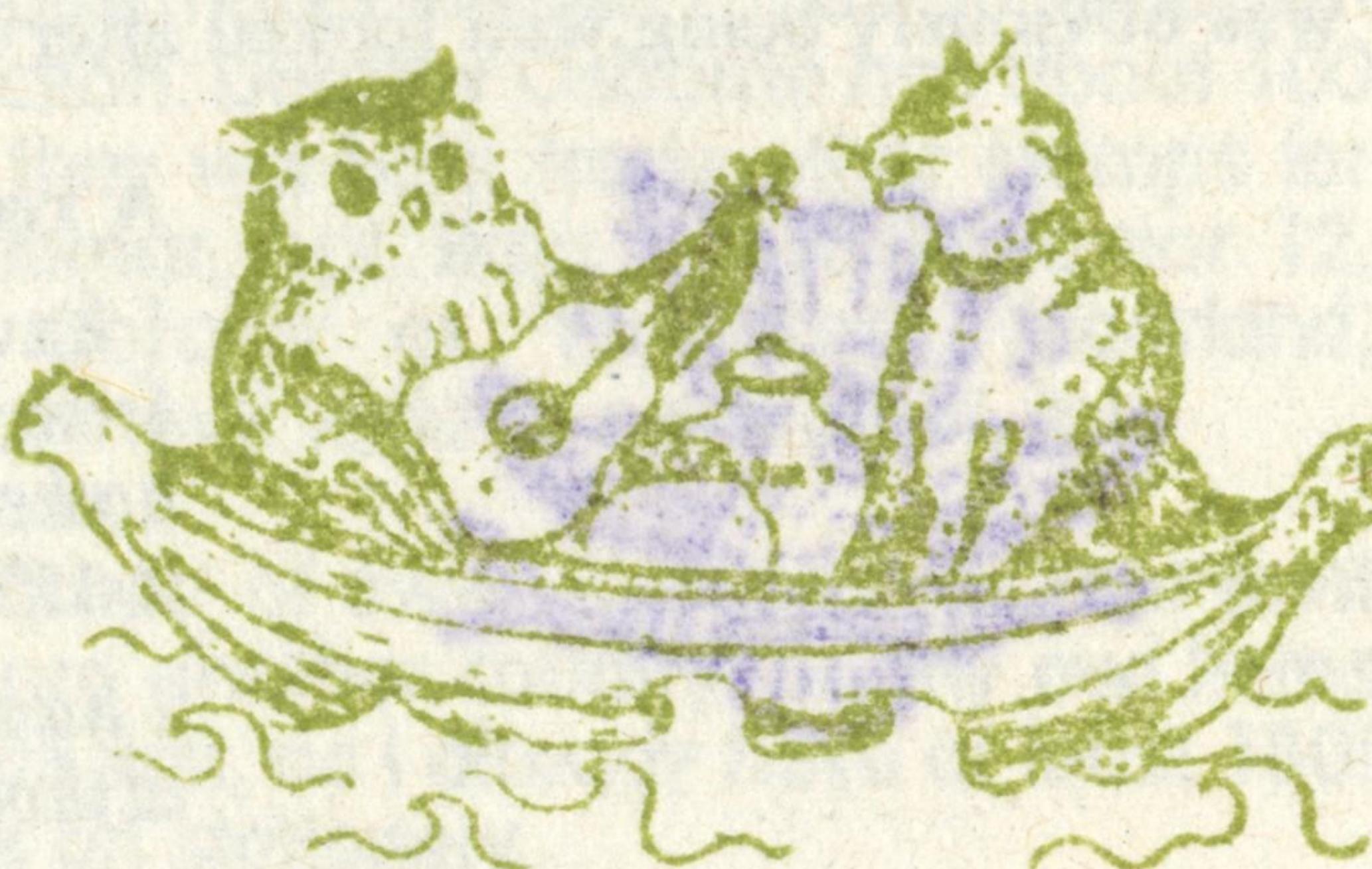
Do visit if you can, and I'm sure you'll find lots to interest you. As well as the live owls (some in a "Meet the Birds" display team) they have a selection of owl merchandise in their shop, including label pictures like the one used above. These pictures were taken by one of our members, Wendy Carr, and given to the centre to sell. The one above shows two eagle owls and is used here with Wendy's permission.

Member to Member

46 year old American male, occasional visitor to Britain, wishes to correspond with a British female, 25 to 45 years old. If you are interested, respond to: D.C. Montgomery, Post Office Box 25164, Chicago, Illinois 60625, U.S.A.

There are a number of places that take in sick and injured owls, and where possible heal them and send them back to the wild. One such is the Three Owls sanctuary, where we have adopted two owls who cannot be released but can live happy lives and perhaps even breed. We basically pay for their food.

There are organisations which work to help owls in the wild, such as the Hawk and Owl trust (who we're helping by adopting an owl nest box) and the RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, who get all the stamps that



Owl Mail

First, two corrections to the membership list sent out last time. Nancy, whose letter is mentioned below, is Nancy Frankum, not Franklin. Mary Friend lives in Newhall Avenue, Newhall, CA91321. Hope that sorts it out.

Letters may have been edited, as although I love to hear from you we have limited space.

Our oldest member?

I have always had a fondness for owls and especially the poem which I know you must be familiar with -

A wise old owl sat in an oak,
The more he saw the less he spoke.
The less he spoke the more he heard,
Why can't we all be like that bird?

I've always thought that has a lot of merit.



I'm an 82 year old widow and have three children, five grandchildren and a great grandchild. It's hard to remember when I first started with owls. I do remember having a beautiful pair of heavy, 10" green glass owls as bookends. I moved into a very nice boarding house for retired women and one day decided to do something about collecting, so I went with the owls.

I have an 18" wide carved maple shelf with two glass, octagonal shaped display cases on each side of it. They are loaded with owls, all different sizes from 1" to 10", made of various materials such as crystal, sandstone, wicker, shell, porcelain, glass, silver, gold and so on. I live in one large room and have to call a halt as I don't have much more room for display. My collection currently includes a cross stitch picture, window decoration, coasters, drinking glasses, tote bag, calendar, two sets of bookends, a sweater, jewellery and a 10" high musical owl!

I'd love to come to England but my age and health prevent me from travelling any distance.
Sincerely, Doris Dudley (Augusta, ME, USA)

Well, is Doris our oldest member? If not please tell us! Why not write about yourself and your collection anyway? Please tell me if it's OK to publish your letter so that I don't have to check.

Here's a note from someone a bit younger -

I thought you might me interested to know that my mum found a 2 week old Tawny Owl in the wood. It still had its down on and was making an clicking noise with its beak.

We went to see it after school and I picked it up. We were told to leave it where it was by the RSPCA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals - Elise) and that it would climb back to its mother. After tea we went to see it and we saw the mother siting in a tree watching us.

When mum went back later at about 10 o'clock she was standing behind a tree watching the owl and the mother owl swooped down and hit her one the head.

From Edie Morgan (Huddersfield, England).

Although Edie's mum, Alison, was bleeding after her encounter she was OK, and the baby owl was obviously being well looked after by the adult!



A real owl-coholic.

I have been collecting owls since 1969. My first owl was from a Hoda Homes Interiors Party and from then on I was hooked. This owl had a big red face and green body (18" long x 15" wide).

I have a very large collection with everything imaginable, although I am picky. Once I had a live screech owl. My sons

adopt owls at the zoo in my name for their gift to me on special occasions. My husband never goes anywhere without bringing me an assortment of owl gifts.

I have owls made from special materials such as lamb (if this letter hadn't been typed I'd think I'd read that wrongly - Elise), coal, pecans, granite, horns, shells etc. that represent a special place or meaning. Many of the owls also hold a special place in my heart because they were gifts from special people for special occasions. It is great to be a collector of owls.

I love owls and regret that I must use discretion and a lot of resistance to refrain from buying every owl I fancy. I never get tired of looking at these mysterious and fascinating creatures.

I enjoy seeing and reading about all the owl things be it information on owls or owl items. It is like I can't get enough of this wonderful creature to satisfy my insatiable appetite.

Nancy Frankum (Wichita, KS USA)

I'm sure lots of us understand Nancy's feelings! After all, I wouldn't have started the club if I wasn't an owl nut.

Arbeitgemeinschaft Eulenschutz

If the title of this section means anything to you, you should probably join them! They are, as I understand it, roughly the German equivalent of the British Hawk and Owl Trust but without the hawks. They

- are a group working for the protection of owls,
- register existing populations of owls,
- try to preserve the owls' habitats,
- support and try to enlarge existing populations of fruit trees,
- try to interest young people in the subject,
- develop teaching materials,
- encourage the exchange of ideas and co-operation between their members and all individuals, institutions and associations engaging in this field (thus their link with us),
- publish the "Kauzbriefe", which members get free. It deals with the latest results of the work but also with questions of general interest such as the life of the owls, their symbolic meaning etc. (we may be publishing translations of one or two of these articles in a later "Life's a Hoot"),
- welcome active and passive members,
- are affiliated with the "Naturschutzbund Deutschland",
- welcome any financial contributions,
- were awarded a local prize for the protection of the environment.



Their newsletter is in German, but if you can read that language it sounds fascinating. The minimum annual subscription is 20 Deutsch Marks, 15 US dollars, 19 Canadian dollars or 8 pounds sterling. If you'd like to join, send the subscription in your own or German currency in a registered letter - you can send the money for more than one year at a time if you like. The address is Rudolf Schaaf, Neckarweihinger Strasse 30, D-71640 Ludwigsburg, Germany. Rudolf is also one of our members, so tell him where you heard about his society if you write.

Swap Shop - Stamps of all kinds.

Terry Clover wants stamps, first day covers and postmarks of owls - best to send him photocopies first as I gather he has a large collection. Dorothy Osborne has about 100 owl stamps and wants stamp swaps too, and they will both trade other stamps for them. If you can help, write to Terry at Edif Clelomar, Apt. Baja C, Avd Terramar 12, Benalmadena Costa Malaga, Spain and/or Dorothy at "Brambles", Moorland, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 0AS, England. I expect they'll write to each other, too.

I want rubber, metal, photopolymer or wood 'stamps' of owls, that is things that print pictures. I will swap them for others (perhaps from another country) or any owl items you are keen on that I can get. Please send prints first, as I already have at least 180! I use these to illustrate this newsletter as well as on stationery.

Owl Stamps Everywhere!

I'm delighted to see all the owl stamps that you've sent in, as well as all the photocopies. I'm also very pleased to welcome the new members who have joined after the club was mentioned in "Flight", the newsletter of the Bird Stamp Society. Details of the society are given on page eleven.

I think we shall have to have stamps as a theme in both this newsletter and the next one, as there are so many lovely images. I've chosen some to show on this double spread, at full size. I could show more if they were reduced in size, but you wouldn't see the details as well. I've also used stamps as illustrations in one or two appropriate places around this issue.

I think that some of the ones I like the best are the stamps that mention owls or something to do with owls, but don't actually show one, like this one of *Til Eulenspiegel* which had a wonderful postmark on its first day cover. William Terence Clover (Terry), who collects owl stamps and postmarks, was pleased to read about this character in our last issue as he hadn't understood the postmark before. He asks if anyone knows why an owl postmark, as shown, was used on the Humberside and Yorkshire visit of the British Queen's Jubilee tour.

Please

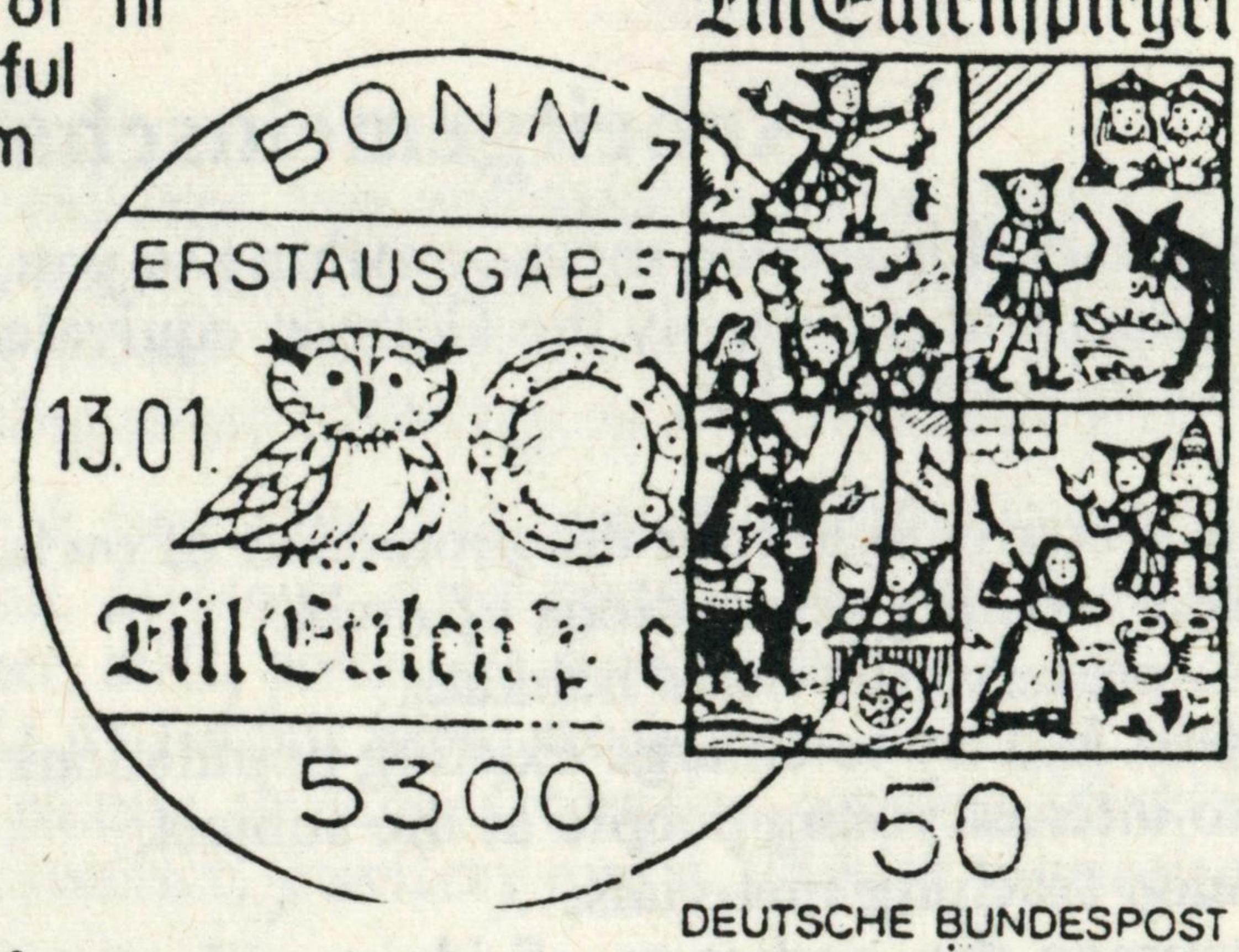
write if you know - see the swap shop for Terry's address.

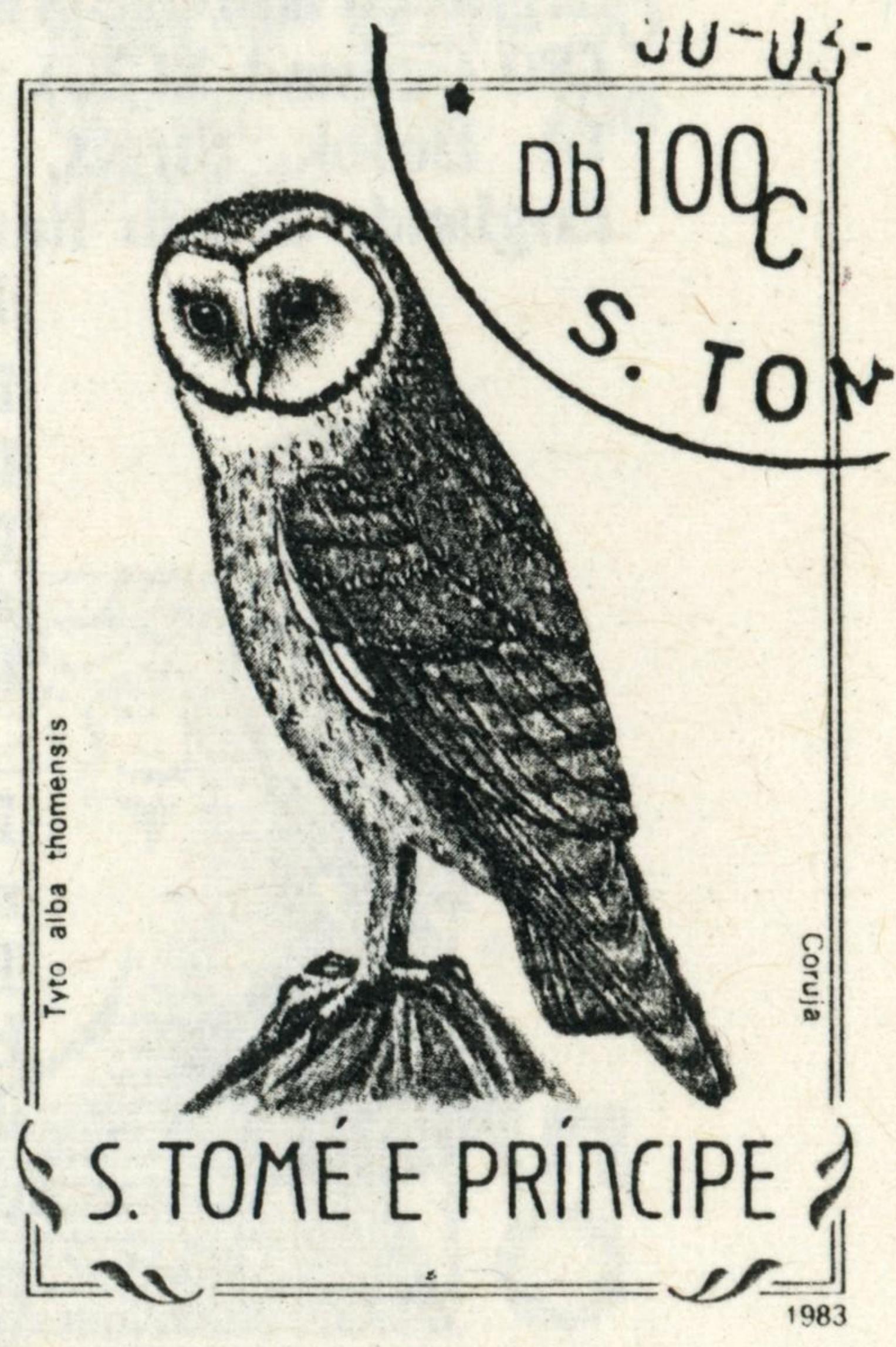
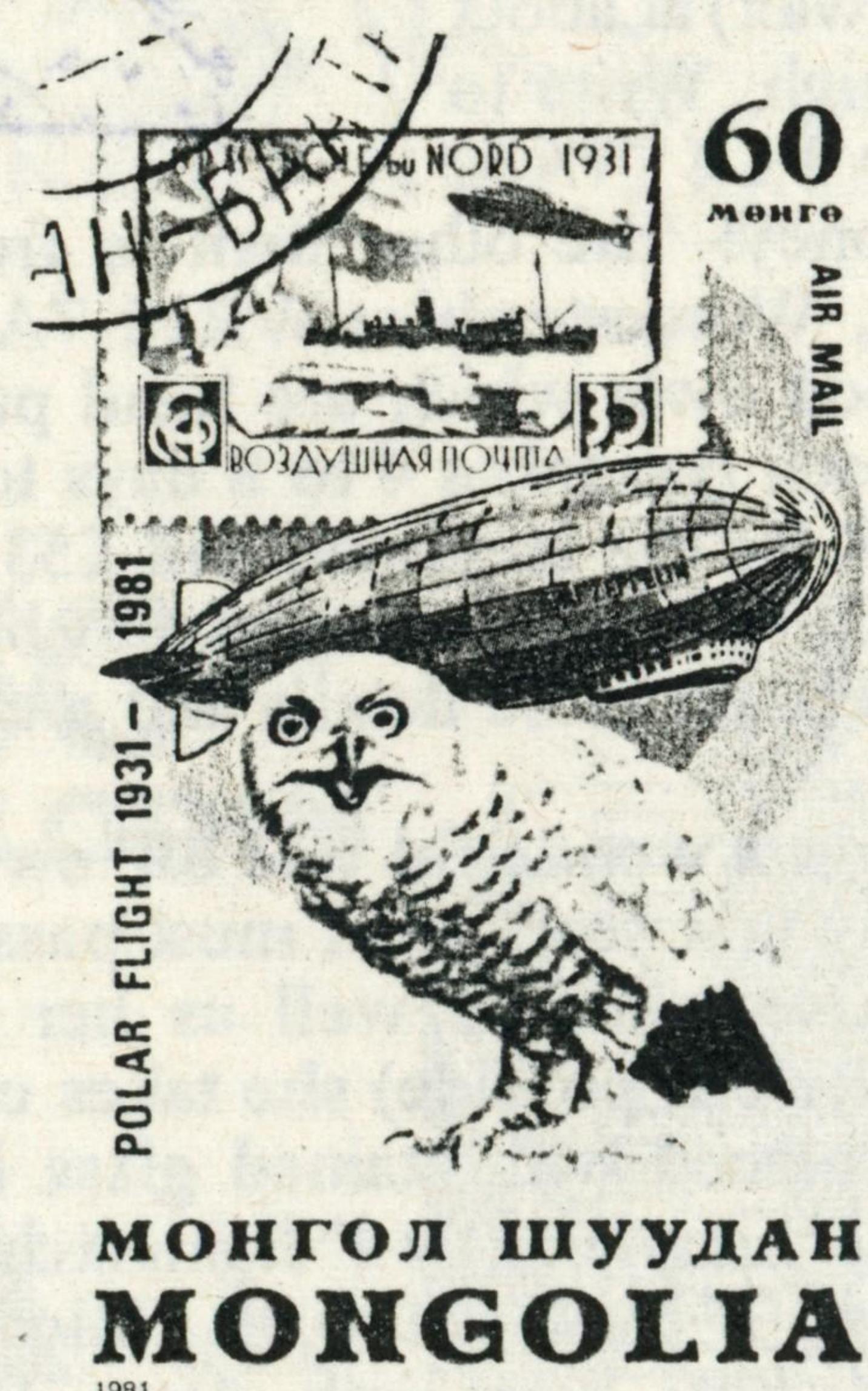
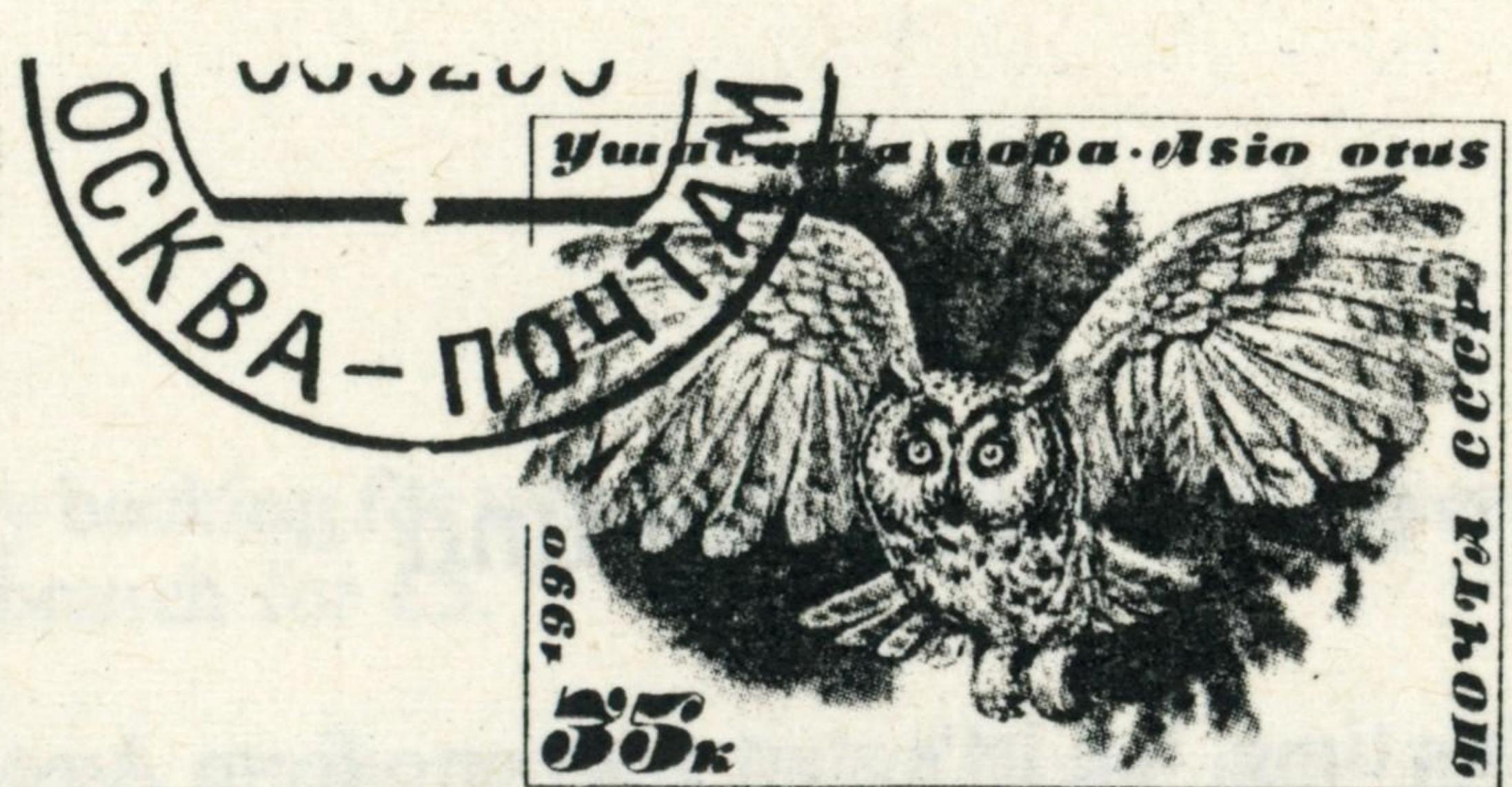
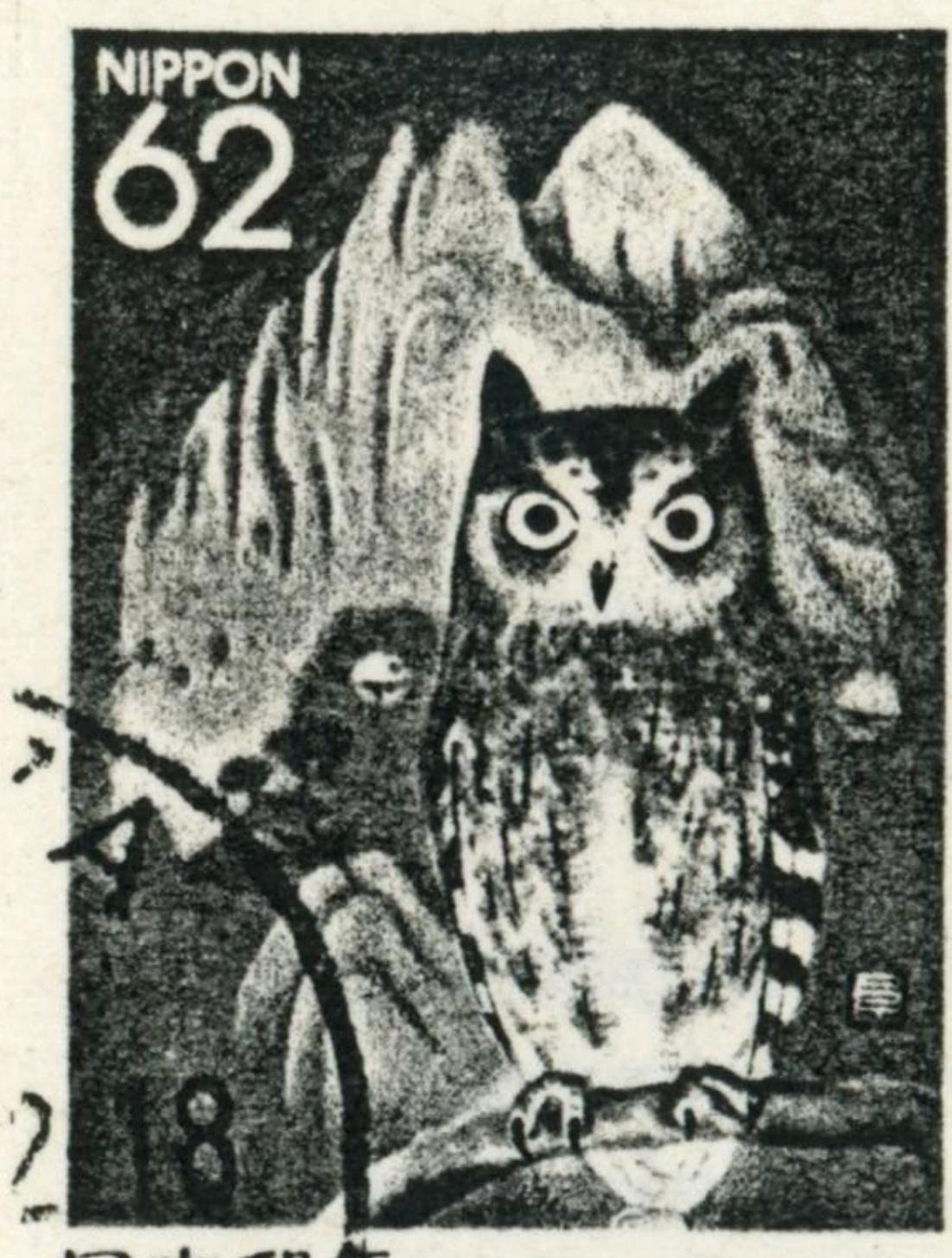
We look forward to the owl philately articles Terry has offered to write! There's a stamp with a question, too - ~~next~~ page - does anyone know why Matthias Claudius is associated with an owl?

This is another of my favourites, sent on an envelope from NON (see page ten) - I didn't notice the connection until I was about to tear off the stamps for the charity box! I also received quite a few American letters using the final stamp on this page, so if anyone outside the USA wants one, send an envelope and an International reply coupon (or a



stamped envelope in Britain) and I'll collect up the requests until September and then as possible their stamp. I have and choose randomly, as first not be fair on those farther the first stamp on the next page our member in Japan,





ПТИЦЫ-ЗАЩИТНИКИ ЛЕСА

Owls Seen Around

I've plenty to tell you about this time, but let's start with one from Australia as a greeting to our new friends there. Connie Brugman is a wonderful wildlife artist who is fascinated, she tells us, by owls, and in particular their eyes. Connie does water-colours, and would love to hear from any of you, in any country, who would be interested in buying one of her paintings. I'm sure if any of you have outlets for art she'd be interested to hear from you, too - she is willing to paint illustrations to order. Write to - Connie Brugman, R.S.D. 2324 Nelson Road, Gorae West (via Portland), 3305 Victoria, Australia. Telephone number 055 265298.

Over to America for this lovely elf-owl rubber stamp, from the Rubber Poet. It costs \$6.50 (or half that unmounted but you will need thin sponge rubber cushion as well as wood if you want a good impression). It's the only owl in their catalogue (which costs \$3) but they have other lovely stuff if you like stamps. Postage is \$3 in the continental US, \$5 Alaska, Hawaii and Canada and \$7.50 elsewhere. Credit card OK over \$15, so buy several and swap them! Write to Rubber Poet, PO Box 1011, Rockville, Utah 84763, USA.

Back to England - here are a couple of things I'd like but can't afford. Halcyon Days Porcelain is very high class stuff. They have this lovely little desk seal (have the base engraved and use with sealing wax) at about £80 (around \$120). It's 2.5" high. Write to 14 Brook Street, London W1Y 1AA, England, if you have the money! The other item is from Feathers Gallery, The Green, Broadway, Worcestershire WR12 7AA, England. It's a pair of carved, poplar wood owls which are hand painted with oils. This is a quality product (each one takes 4 to 8 days to finish) and that's reflected in the price - £68 for the large owl and £53 for the smaller one. As these are apparently sold world-wide you may be able to buy them near you - write to the gallery for more details and a colour leaflet.



Broadway, Worcestershire WR12 7AA, England. It's a pair of carved, poplar wood owls which are hand painted with oils. This is a quality product (each one takes 4 to 8 days to finish) and that's reflected in the price - £68 for the large owl and £53 for the smaller one. As these are apparently sold world-wide you may be able to buy them near you - write to the gallery for more details and a colour leaflet.



I was bought a wonderful 'one off' owl in hand painted stained glass for my birthday this year, and I must pass on the name of the artist! She is Frances Davies and as well as her current designs (which are in a brochure she can provide) she takes commissions, so you could have a window replaced with stained glass including one or more owls. For example, her simple 9" by 4" lightcatcher barn owl costs £11.90 including p&p, and one 7" by 4" is £10.90. Unicorn Glass Workshop, Tooses Farm, Stoke St Micheal, Near Bath, Avon, BA3 5JJ, England.

How about a wrought iron weathervane owl? In various sizes for between £45 and £118 from Monochrome Plus, Whitehaven, 141 Elm Low Road, Wisbech, Cambs., PE14 0DF, England. I can't afford one of those, either, but it's nice to know they exist, isn't it.

Ever wanted a barn owl mobile? You can get one from Flights of Fancy, 15 New Street, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV31 1HP, England, for £6. It's made of card and the wings flap up and down when you pull the weight (disguised as the mouse it's swooping for) and let go. They also have sets of owl magnets for £2, card owl earrings for

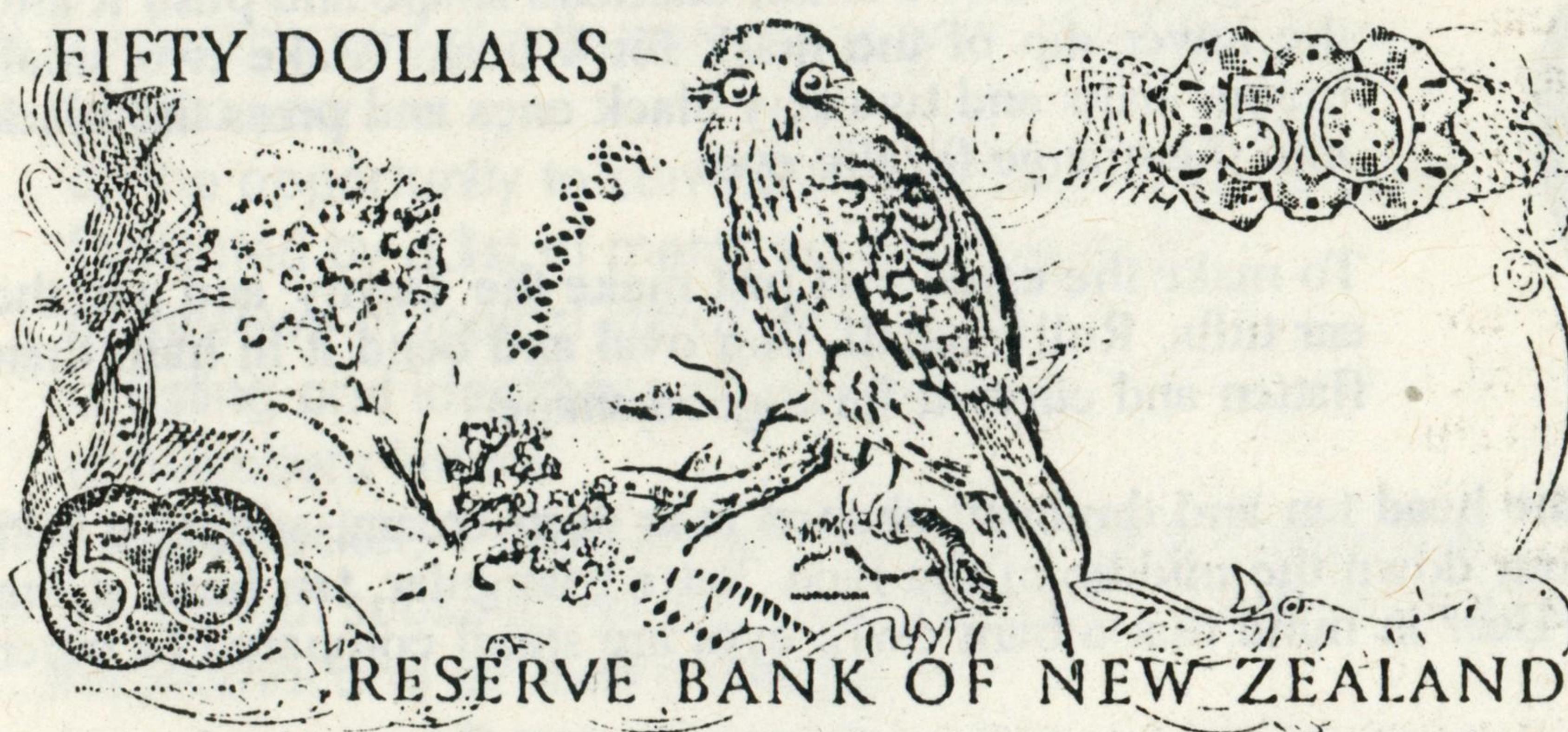


£1.50 (on a lovely backing for when you're not wearing them) and an owl hoot (works fairly well) made of a branch for £5.

Franklin mint have a new series, or at least new to Britain - For the Discerning Collector...the Art of the Owl. The collector's treasury of owls, as it is called, has 27 different 3" owls, sent one every other month at £19.50 per month (that is, each one costs £39). These are lovely things and very hard to resist if you can afford them. There are also three brass and glass displays as part of the collection. Franklin mint work in various countries, so ask them about foreign sales if you are interested. The address is Bromley Road, London, SE6 2XG, England.

If you want something from Britain and can't cope with sending the appropriate people pounds, let me know and I'll try to help. I'm sure you can arrange credit card payments on expensive items, though, so please try that first. Please write in with sources of owls, especially from outside Britain.

More Owl Money.

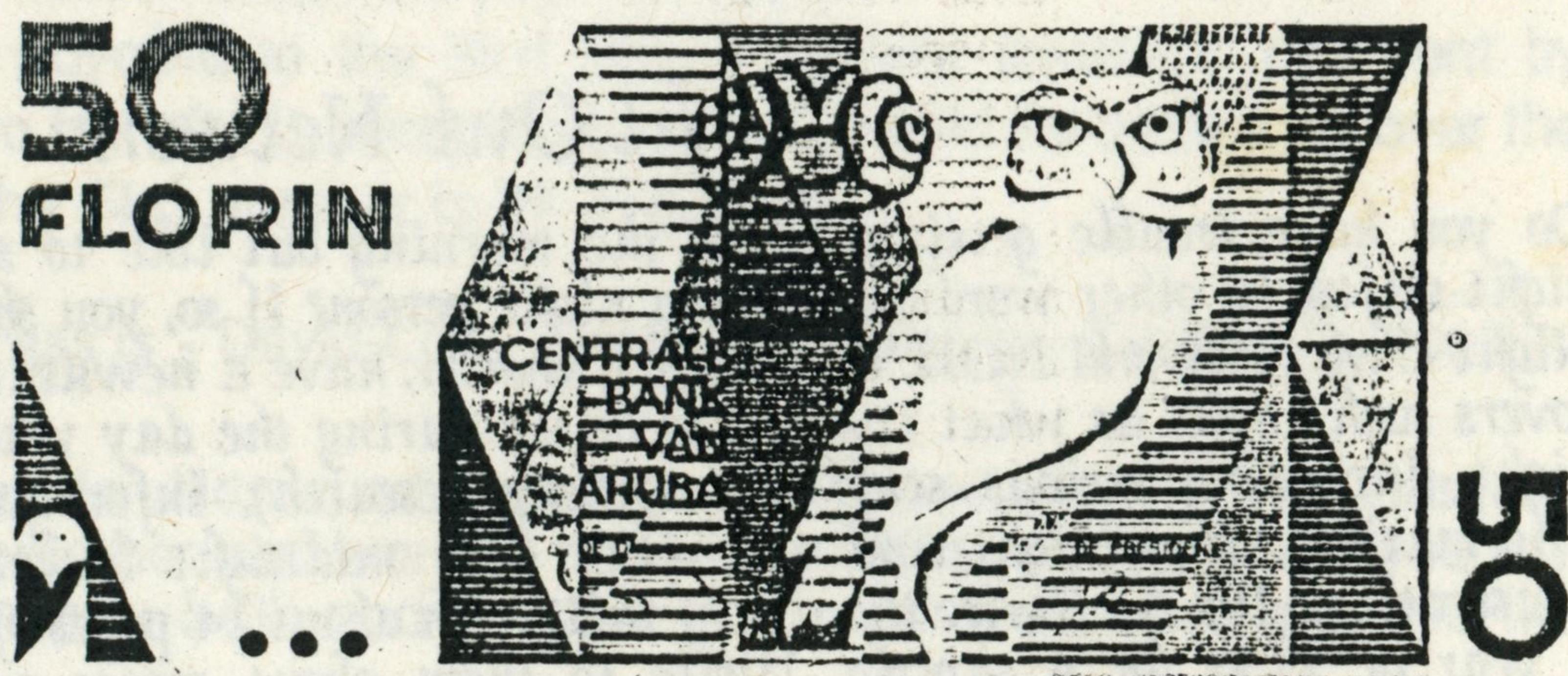


Following on from our article last time, Ursula, from Belgium, has sent us pictures of two more banknotes. Funny that they're both 50 again, like the others!

Superstitions

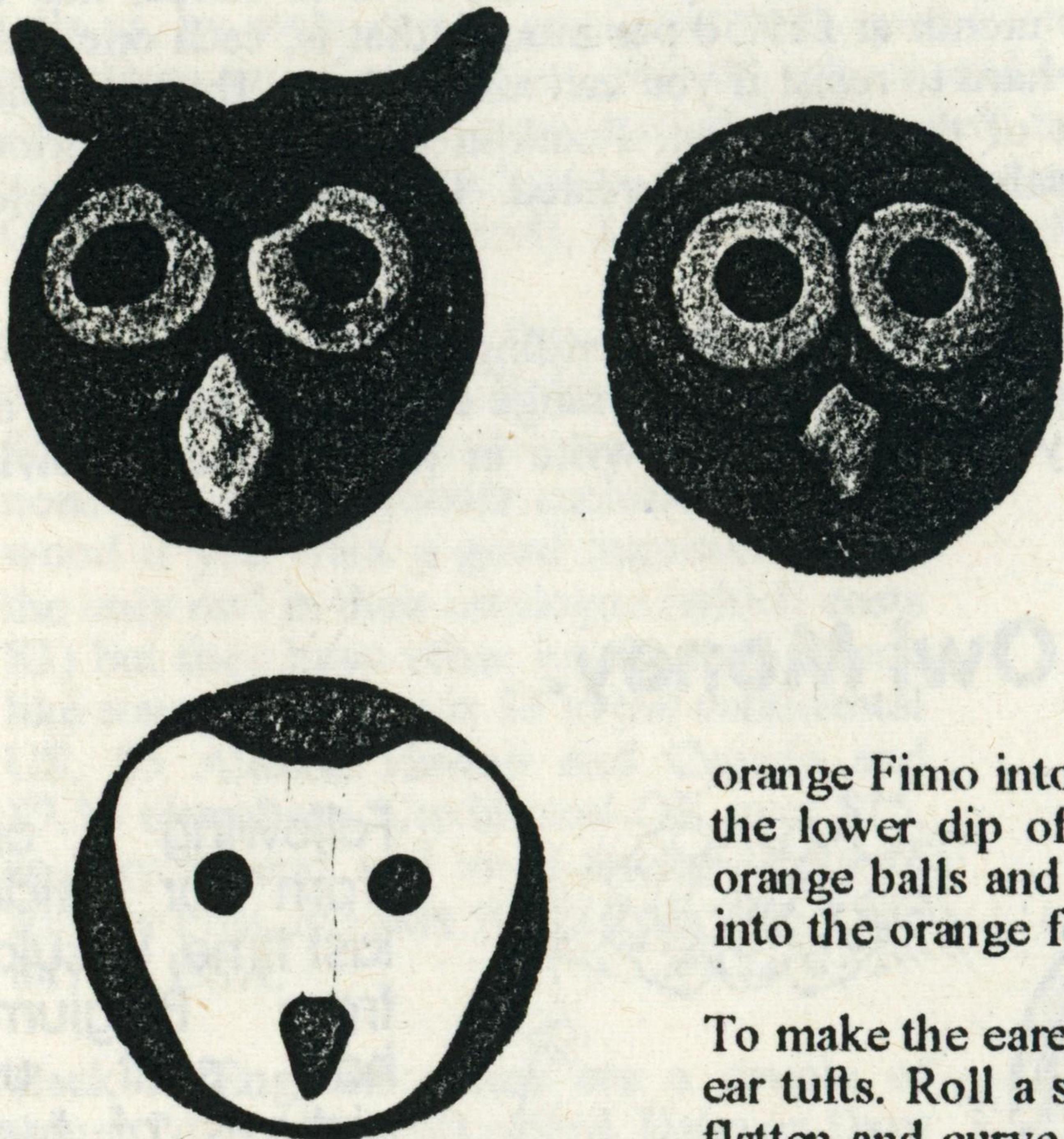
Normally, in Spain, the owl is regarded as a symbol of luck, but in the southern province of Andalucia it is regarded as a symbol of Bad luck! It is also unlucky to buy an owl ornament (statue) for yourself but lucky to buy one

for someone else and despite the above some Spaniards in that area do carry around owl items that have been given to them as lucky charms.



The Craft Spot

These little brooches or fridgies are made from oven-bake clay, which is very easy to use. I like fimo, but you can use Super Sculpy or anything similar.



Let's start with the 'tawny'. Take about one twelfth of a block of brown Fimo (cut a quarter into three) and knead it until it's easy to work. This is easiest in a warm room. Using about three quarters of the amount you've kneaded, roll a large ball and flatten it into a circle about a quarter of an inch (a bit more than half a centimeter) thick. This is the main head. Make the rest into two balls, flattened and pushed together to make the 'mask' behind the eyes. Press some

orange Fimo into a small diamond shape and push it into the lower dip of the mask for a beak. Make two small orange balls and two tiny black ones and press the black into the orange for the eyes.

To make the eared owl just make the 'tawny' and add the ear tufts. Roll a small, thin oval and bend it in half, then flatten and curve it for a good shape.

For the barn owl, make the head tan and the heart shaped face deep cream, adding a thin 'sausage' in the same colour down the middle of the face. Put a triangular, tan beak at the bottom of the 'sausage'. Bear in mind that a barn owl's eyes are small compared to other owls and appear black.

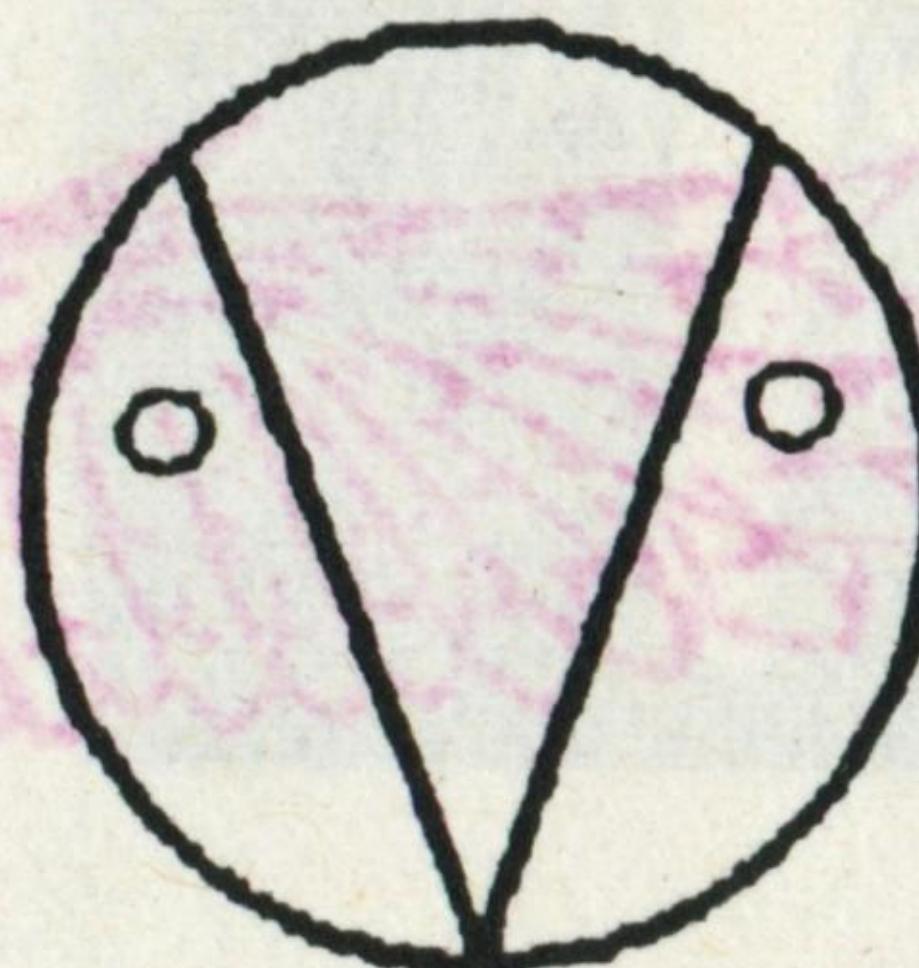
When you've made the owls, bake them in the oven. Fimo bakes at about 130 degrees C, 265 degrees F, for about 20 minutes, but check on the packet for instructions. When cool, use a good glue to stick a brooch pin or a magnet on the back.

Night Owl Network

Do you have trouble getting up in the morning but like to stay up later? Do you work night-shifts? In other words, are you a night person? If so, you should join our friends in the Night Owl Network! NON, as they are known, have a newsletter four times a year which covers such topics as what it's like to be up during the day when your body-clock likes the night (including serious stuff about sleep research), information about feathered owls, information about night-time activities (like midnight basketball), humour, poetry and illustrations. It's A4 (twice the size of this) with about 14 pages of (mostly) text, and costs \$12 a year or \$3.50 for a sample. Write to them about prices outside America (enclose an International reply coupon). With a subscription you also get a wall certificate to proclaim that you are "Inclined to late-night activity and/or late-morning slumber which distinguish him/her as a natural born OWL, with all rights and privileges attached thereto, namely, bleary red eyes and a lousy disposition before noon", and a similar card for your wallet!

There are also T-shirts featuring Oliver and Olivia owl which say "Born to Moonlight" and "I don't do Mornings", which are \$14 including postage. Debbie Jordan, who runs the network, would like to hear from any other night owls, or as she puts it "persons of like feather".

To join write to: Night Owl Network, 3260 Keith Bridge Road, #131, Cumming, GA 30131, U.S.A.



The Bird Stamp Society

I'm very grateful to the bird stamp society for putting our membership form into their magazine, "Flight". I'm sure some more of you will be interested in joining them, but as we don't have as much room as they do and can't afford the extra postage for another sheet of paper, here's the details from their form.

The society was founded in 1986 and although based in Britain has links with German and Swedish groups. The aims of the society are:-

- 1) To link collectors of Bird Stamps not only in the U.K. butthroughout the world.
- 2) To promote friendship and to develop the interests ofmembers.
- 3) Production and distribution of the journal "Flight", fourtimes a year.
 - a) The opportunity to correspond on an individual basis, facilitated by a list of members in the journal.
 - b) Reviews of topical literature.
 - c) Listing and identifying all new issues.
 - d) Members letters.
- 4) A sales packet, a postal auction, and a new issue service.
- 5) The annual subscription fee, due on 1st August each year (fees cover the cost ofthe journal and air mail postage), is:-

Overseas members £20 (or £18 for surface mail)

UK members £14

European Members £18

Junior Members pay half fees.

Cheques should be made payable to the Bird Stamp Society, overseas payment by bankers draft in sterling. Giro transfer is acceptable but £2 should be added to cover the costs at the society's end. The Giro number is 29 776 6902.

If you'd like to join, the address is - David Cox, "Lynnmoor", Ampney Cruds, Cirencester, Glos., GL7 5RY, England.

Please send the following details:- Name, address, age, telephone number, interests (e.g. owls, particular countries), whether you want to receive the sales packet and if you are interested in covers or stamps or both and whether you want your name put into the journal.

Oxford Word and Language Service

Thank you for your card. I don't know of any word for 'lover of owls' or 'collector of owls'. I can only suggest inventing a word like glaucidiophile, based on the ancient greek glaukidion, 'little owl' and the suffix -phile, 'one who loves something'.

Hope this is of some help. Yours sincerely, Richard Palmer,
Senior Assistant Editor, Oxford English Dictionary.

How about another badge saying "I'm a glaucidiophile"? It should get you into lots of conversations!



DESELBERGER - 1990

Owl Places.

This rubber stamp is from Detailed Rubber Stamps, 267 9th Street, #4-L, Brooklyn, NY 11215 USA. In response to my query, Debra-Jane writes:

Yes, The Hoot Owl Cafe is an actual building in Los Angeles, CA (USA). Built in 1925 at 8711 Long Beach Blvd., here's the info I have on it (from 1977 that I pray is current). "One of the few remaining Programmatic buildings standing in the LA area, this cafe, in the form of an owl, was often illustrated during the 20s and 30s in articles about LA's way out architecture. At the moment, the poor owl is abandoned and falling apart. Let us hope it will be saved." I'm a big roadside architecture fan, so I'd love to know of any in the UK or elsewhere.

Can anyone in the area go and look if this owl is still there, please, and let us know?

Angela North writes:

Thought members might be interested to hear about Holderby House in Northamptonshire, England. It has a falconry/bird of prey centre, which includes various types of owls: Eagle, Snowy, Little and Barn. The birds are "flown" and displayed by their handlers. I was lucky enough to hold a barn owl: he had gorgeous plumage and was very soft to stroke. Details should be available from any tourist office in the area.

In Derby, outside the Derby Royal Infirmary, is a statue of Florence Nightingale with an owl at her feet. Apparently she befriended an injured owl while in the Crimea.

More - A colleague brought me a leaflet from Cornwall, England, which mentions Paradise Park, near Hayle, which has a live show featuring owls, and The Owl Sanctuary (at the shire horse centre) near Tredinnick. Anyone out there with more information about them?

More or U is for owl.

Although we know that the usual Spanish word for owl is *Buho*, I thought you might like to see the words for the various species that live in Iberia, as sent in by Terry Clover, our member in Spain.



Barn owl = *Lechuza Comun* - Resident
Eagle owl = *Buho Real* (King owl) - Rare resident
Scops owl = *Autillo Common* - Summer visitor
Little owl = *Mochuelo Common* - Resident
Tawny = *Carabo* - Resident
Long-eared = *Buho Chico* - Rare resident
Short-eared = *Lechuza Campestre* - Rare winter visitor

I've also learnt the Welsh for owls, sent by Michaela Gwythr in Australia. It's *Tylluanod*, which I think would be pronounced tie-khluanod, but I'm willing to be corrected.